UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.16/1993/L.7
21 April 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
First session
12-23 April 1993
Agenda item 6

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman's Working Group

Science and technology for sustainable development

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/191 on institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Emphasizing the importance of effective interaction between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development,

1. Takes note of the following documentation prepared by the United Nations Secretariat under the agenda item entitled "Science and technology for sustainable development" for the first session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the implications of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, for the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization and marketing of energy technologies, focusing on policy issues and options for the effective transfer and application of environmentally sound energy technologies;

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2. Stresses the critical importance for all countries, and for the developing countries in particular, of harnessing the potential of science and technology in view of achieving the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

3. Emphasizes, in this respect, the major relevance of the activities of the United Nations system in the areas of science and technology, particularly in endogenous capacity-building, as well as technology transfer, technology assessment and forecasting, information management and science for sustainable development;

4. Decides that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should place particular emphasis in its work on policy issues and options related to the development, transfer and utilization of environmentally sound technologies, specifically addressing the following technologies:

(a) New and renewable sources of energy;

(b) Clean coal technologies;

(c) Alternative fuel technologies;

(d) Biotechnologies;

(e) Technologies associated with health and food;

(f) Technologies related to natural resources;

(g) Indigenous technologies;

5. Encourages bilateral and multilateral donors to further support the development, transfer and application of environmentally sound technologies;

6. Supports United Nations activities and international cooperation aimed at promoting the use of efficient and cleaner technologies, and recommends to all interested countries the assigning of a high priority to improvement of the efficiency of their existing powerplants, and also to international cooperation to promote such improvement;

7. Calls upon the Commission on Sustainable Development to interact closely with the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and to take advantage of its work while reviewing the science and technology-related chapters of Agenda 21; 1/

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1991, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 (Vol. I)), resolution 1, annex II.

8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the members of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development are kept informed of, and that effective coordination takes place during the inter-sessional period with respect to, those aspects of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development that have direct or indirect bearing on the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and to report on this subject to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its second session.